

**KINGSTON HILL ACADEMY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
March 9, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.
Place of Meeting: Kingston Hill Academy**

Board Members Present: Ms. Helen Morcos, Ms. Debra Deion, Ms. Linda Paolillo, Dr. Lionel Murray, Ms. Anne Kuzminsky, Ms. Lee Mita and Ms. Amy Walsh

Board Members Absent: Mr. Stephen Nardelli, Ms. Lisa Davis, Ms. Johnna Bicknell and Ms. Anne Considine

Guests: Patricia Hill and Attorney Matthew Plain

Recording Secretary: Ms. Linda Ollari

Dr. Murray called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes from February 10, 2016

Dr. Murray requested a motion to approve the minutes from the February 10, 2016 Board meeting. The motion was made (Ms. Morcos) and was seconded (Ms. Kuzminsky). All Board members were in favor of approving the minutes and the motion was passed unanimously by all Board members present. No Board members abstained.

2. Open Forum/Public Comment

Lori Filiberto, KHA Teacher Assistant, commented about a letter she had submitted to Helen Morcos regarding a salary increase.

3. CEO Report/Finance Report

As of January 31, 2016, KHA has a deficit of \$87,094. Funds that the Board previously voted to transfer will not be transferred until the end of the fiscal year. Dr. Murray requested a motion to accept the Finance Report. The motion was made (Ms. Deion) and was seconded (Ms. Kuzminsky). All Board members were in favor of accepting the Finance Report and the motion was passed unanimously by all Board members present. No Board members abstained.

4. Planning Committee Recommendation and Vote Regarding Grade Level Configuration, Number of Classes/Students and Classroom Space for the 2016-2017 School Year.

Ms. Paolillo provided a summary of the March 1st Planning Committee meeting. There are currently nine classrooms (2 Kindergarten, 2 First Grade, 2 Second Grade, 1 Third Grade, 1 Fourth Grade and 1 Fifth Grade). For the upcoming 2016-2017 school year, there would be room for only 1 Kindergarten class (only one classroom is opening up with the graduation of current fifth graders). The Planning Committee agreed that it is essential for KHA to have two Kindergarten classes and that eliminating Fifth grade is not on the table. Options for accommodating a tenth classroom were discussed, such as:

- a temporary structure/modular unit
- a permanent build out
- temporary internal changes (take over the staff lounge or divide the multi-purpose room in half)
- proceed with expansion plans

Ms. Paolillo talked to the teaching staff after the Planning Committee meeting and if the decision is made to make temporary internal changes, then the teaching staff would prefer to give up the staff lounge.

Ms. Morcos commented that proceeding with expansion plans at this time would not qualify for 30% housing aid, so that option is the least desirable option.

KHA Board members are gathering financial information on a temporary structure/modular unit, a permanent build out, and temporary internal changes and will discuss them at the next Planning Committee Meeting.

Ms. Walsh suggested raising funds through a capital campaign.

Ms. Morcos made the motion to have 10 classrooms for the 2016-2017 school year with two Kindergarten classes. The motion was seconded (Ms. Mita). Dr. Murray amended the motion to specifically state all grades: 2 Kindergarten, 2 First Grade, 2 Second Grade, 2 Third Grade, 1 Fourth Grade and 1 Fifth Grade. The motion was seconded (Ms. Kuzminsky). All Board members were in favor of having 10 classrooms for the 2016-2017 school year with 2 Kindergarten, 2 First Grade, 2 Second Grade, 2 Third Grade, 1 Fourth Grade and 1 Fifth Grade classes. The motion was passed unanimously by all Board members present. No Board members abstained.

5. Principal Report – Linda Paolillo

a. Discussion/Vote – Proposed Board Resolution regarding the IAQ & EPA tools Policy, Stage 1 Application.

Ms. Paolillo reviewed the proposed Indoor Air Quality Guidelines in order to participate in an indoor environmental management plan to help monitor and improve air quality in the school building. These guidelines are required when applying for housing aid. Ms. Walsh made the motion to recommend signing of the Board Resolution to adopt and fully incorporate the Indoor Air quality Guidelines. The motion was seconded (Ms. Deion) and was passed unanimously by all Board members present. No Board members abstained.

6. Discussion/Vote to Convene Executive Session Pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5 (a)(2) – Sessions pertaining to litigation regarding North Kingstown’s refusal to pay tuition for student(s) enrolled at KHA on August 15th.

Ms. Deion made a motion to convene Executive Session pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5 (a)(2) – Sessions pertaining to litigation regarding North Kingstown’s refusal to pay tuition for student(s) enrolled at KHA on August 15th. The motion was seconded by Ms. Morcos and was passed unanimously by all Board members present. No Board members abstained. Members of the public left the meeting room.

Upon conclusion of discussion of matters which relate to litigation regarding North Kingstown’s refusal to pay tuition for student(s) enrolled at KHA on August 15th, pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2), Ms. Deion made a motion to close the Executive Session and return to open session. Ms. Kuzminsky seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by all Board members present. No Board members abstained.

Ms. Morcos made a motion to seal the minutes of the Executive Session. Ms. Mita seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously by all Board members present. No Board members abstained.

There were no members of the public waiting to re-enter the meeting room.

8. Adjournment of Board Meeting

Dr. Murray requested a motion to adjourn. The motion was made (Ms. Kuzminsky), was seconded (Ms. Mita), and was passed unanimously by all Board members present. No Board members abstained. The meeting was adjourned at 5:50pm.

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